

## THE TROUBLE WITH MIRRORS

naked white arms and shake her. . .Licky walked him out early every morning, and often they wandered about till late afternoon. Licky earth in his hands, rolled the dirt in his palms, kneading, testing, tasting it. For that time he breath smelled earthy. His light eyes gazed directly into Otter's eyes. "Would you like to know?..Licky was his master..slowly down at the ground. She sank down kneeling. He knelt with her, tried to support her, but.castration and butchery. He had a pleasure in their trust in him, a pride in it. He should not..On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned off the.a wrong turning somewhere. Tall reeds rose up close beside the paths, so that if a light shone.He smiled. Gift had never seen him smile..The heat of the day was beginning to lessen and the shadows of the Grove lay across the grass.. "You'll come to the sea, going south, they say," said Ayo..In return he told Veil and Ember about the mines of Samory, and the wizard Gelluk, and Anieb the slave..years before?."What's up?" said Kurremkarmerruk. "I've been reading about dragons. Not paying attention. But all."Don't you understand?" he said, exasperated with her for not understanding, because he had not understood. "A wizard can't have anything to do with women. With witches. With all that."..going to do in town, in Oraby, when they got paid off. He heard a good deal about the whores in.summon him. The bond between them that had linked them and let her save him was not broken. Many."Ivory," said the Doorkeeper. "A lad from Havnor Great Port, whom I let in three years ago, and.Havnor Great Port; he owned the biggest chestnut groves; he owned the carts and hired the carters.heart of the teaching of magic..and lodging, for a wizard of Roke should not take advantage of people's willingness to give him."The great lode?" Gelluk looked straight at him, their faces not a hand's breadth apart. The light."The true art prevails over the false. The pattern will hold," Ember said, frowning. She reached."They sent me here. They said, "All the foreigners in one basket."" The stranger was in his thirties, with a blunt face and a pleasant look, dressed plain, though the cob that stood behind him was a good horse. "Put me up in the cow barn, mistress, it'll do fine. It's my horse needs a good bed; he's tired. I'll sleep in the barn and be off in the morning. Cows are a pleasure to sleep with on a cold night. I'll be glad to pay you, mistress, if two coppers would suit, and my name's Hawk."..increase his soldiery and the fleets he sent out to take slaves and plunder from other lands. As.Re Albi, and they both knew it..The trouble rose up in Iritho's mind as it had not done since he came to the High Marsh. He."Your majesty is sending forth his fleets," Early said to the staring old man in the armchair in."Keep away. No! No! I beg you!"..I turned and left. The outer door yielded when I pushed it; the large corridor was almost.The boy's drop-jawed stare irritated Hemlock, though he knew it shouldn't. Wizards are used to."If it hasn't rusted shut," Dulse added..fountain; I got up, walked on in the spreading light of the new day, until I woke from my stupor.asked herself, looking at her strong bare arms, the slight, soft swell of her breasts in the.daylight, clouds racing across a bright sky, and across the sea he saw the sunlit curve of a high.clamour and racket of barking that woke everybody for a half-mile round except the Master, sodden.as they said taught her teachers, became the mistress of all healing arts and the science of.asked, fascinated, when she saw it, and when he answered with a laugh, "Rosemary," she laughed.Mead looked at her sister. "Then it's time we talked a bit to you," she said, sitting down across the hearth from him. Ayo stood by the table, silent. A good fire burned in the hearth. It was a wet, cold time, and firewood was one thing they had plenty of, here on the mountain..with brick walls and bricked-up windows. The door had no bars and no visible lock. But when he."Mars?"..over Otter and to the tower, and then back. His face was large and long, whiter than any face.you to meet together."."Because of children," I explained. "You can't raise children on such ships, and even if.dangerous. The art must be learned, and practiced, he said."."I don't see why," she said. "My mother can cure a fever and ease a childbirth and find a lost.When he had done what he could to warn the city, and seen all the gate-guards and port-guards doing what they could to keep the few roads out from becoming choked and murderous with panicky people, Ogion shut himself into a room in the signal tower of the Port, locked the door, for everybody wanted him at once, and sent a sending to the Dark Pond in Semere's cow pasture up on the Mountain..frozen gold fire. In recesses along the walls were hundreds of booths; people ran into these, burst.Unable to continue Tehanu's story (because it hadn't happened yet) and foolishly assuming that the.give Anieb to her to hold. He did so at last, watching to see if she was gentle with his friend.in space, because it was certainty, not a guess.. "That I'm a fool."..But after he had rested a couple of days, he asked her who the cattlemen of the village were, and.this man, I had begun to see in my mind's eye a great mountain, a broken cone, with a long, green.labyrinth, the deepest pits filled with unmoving water. "Never was much silver, and the."You're in such a hurry. You still know nothing."..this infernal station, to be under the naked sky, in the open air, to see the stars, feel the wind..Dragonfly found the village witch taking maggots out of an infected cut on a sheep's rump. The witch's use-name was Rose, like a great many women of Way and other islands of the Hardic Archipelago. People who have a secret name that holds their power the way a diamond holds light may well like their public name to be ordinary, common, like other people's names.. "Maybe you can find that island," said Ayo.. "It does not know death," he said, but he spoke in his own language, and they did not understand.that such a thing was possible. She fell silent, and still I heard her voice; suddenly light footsteps.Books of history and the records and recipes for magic exist only in written form-the latter usually in a mixture of Hardic runic writing and True Runes. Of a lore-book (a compilation of spells made and annotated by a wizard, or by a lineage of wizards) there is usually one copy only..tried to say he would not take the man's work from him. But all these words burned away in the.When she did so, Alder's wife Tawny and several other people agreed with her that a squabble.Hound had taken him, had stood and seen his people beaten senseless, had not stopped the beating.. "Meridional, rasts: one hundred and six, one hundred and seventeen, zero eight, zero two.."What can we do?" said Veil..So that my mind could move about among the years and

centuries without getting things all out of. raised her head on the pillow, and when Tern was very near he could hear her: "Wizard," she said..there, he sailed up the Ebavnor Straits, intending to head west along the south shores of Omer. He. "What's up?" said Kurremkarmerruk. "I've been reading about dragons. Not paying attention. But all the boys I had studying at the Tower left.". Wordless at first, he simply shook his head. After a while he was able to laugh. "I think we've..silent. I could be very bored by this woman, Ivory thought, if once I'd had her underneath me..Tenar of the Ring is there," said Azver..we?"..thin, with a sullen, steady gaze..remembering them. At the end he repeated them in his mind in silence, sketching the strange..legs. He studied the ground where some crumbs of fresh dirt lay and the grass was bent. He stroked..they held their land and people with firm hands, putting their gains back into the land, upholding..and inkpots and writings, two or three boys seated at the table, and the grey-haired, stocky man..Gelluk, or had got clean away. He had left no spell traces as the mage did, said Hound, and it had..up on deck. She was afraid of the water, she had told him. She could not swim; she said, "Drowning..Each True Rune has a significance, a connotation or area of meaning, which can be more or less defined in Hardic; but it is better to say that the runes are not words at all, but spells, or acts. Only in the syntax of the Old Speech, however, and only as spoken or written by a wizard, not as a statement but with intention to act, reinforced by voice and gesture-in a spell-does the word or the rune fully release its power..Maybe I said it out loud in my sleep. Or somebody told him. But nobody knows it. Nobody ever knew..The music started up, distant, blurred by wind and the murmur of the river running..The traveler stood at the crossway and whistled back at the reeds..understand that?" "No," Diamond said..ONE WINTER AFTERNOON on the shore of the Onneva River where it fingers out into the north bight..said, "Might be a good idea. Come to Roke. Safer.". long solitudes among the trees, always sought form and clarity, and she said, "How can we teach..She went to the house, set out her supper of smoked meat and bread and summer lettuce, and ate it..his hand on it. "This is clever," he said. "But who is it? A newcomer, I think." He sniffed..with her, and she was grateful to him for his patience, knowing he was much quicker than she..story of Ged and Tenar had reached its happily-ever-after, I gave the book a subtitle: "The Last..Though not a sorcerer, Licky was a much more formidable man than Hound. Yet like Hound he was..window looking out on a back-street. No spells - you can't make spells with all their magic going..drunk by his cold hearth.. "Gully," he named himself after a pause, and she thought it was a name he had made up to call himself. It did not fit him. Nothing about him fit together, made a whole. Yet she felt no distrust of him. She was easy with him. He meant no harm to her. She thought there was kindness in him, the way he spoke of the animals. He would have a way with them, she thought. He was like an animal himself, a silent, damaged creature that needed protection but couldn't ask for it..Fanian vines on the south hill, Birch said, "A wizard of Roke doesn't lower himself to such stuff..in labor when her womb contracts. That was Ogion's thought, even as he said, "What did you mean," "Well, why can't you do it all? The magic and the music, anyhow? You can always hire a.. "Something to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?"..rate he came with a very good prenticing fee paid beforehand in gold and ivory. If he had the..usually in a mixture of Hardic runic writing and True Runes. Of a lore-book (a compilation of.. "All the foreigners in one basket," said the taverner, and this was repeated that night at the tavern several dozen times, an inexhaustible source of admiration, the best thing anybody'd said since the murrain.. "Nothing to do with us, that lot at the old place," Birch said, displeased. The tactful Ivory asked no more. But he wanted to see the girl as beautiful as a flowering tree. He rode past Old Iria regularly. He tried stopping in the village at the foot of the hill to ask questions, but there was nowhere to stop and nobody would answer questions. A wall-eyed witch took one look at him and scuttled into her hut. If he went up to the house he would have to face the pack of hellhounds and probably a drunk old man. But it was worth the chance, he thought; he was bored out of his wits with the dull life at Westpool, and was never slow to take a risk. He rode up the hill till the dogs were yelling around him in a frenzy, snapping at the mare's legs. She plunged and lashed out her hooves at them, and he kept her from bolting only by a staying-spell and all the strength in his arms. The dogs were leaping and snapping at his own legs now, and he was about to let the mare have her head when somebody came among the dogs shouting curses and beating them back with a strap. When he got the lathered, gasping mare to stand still, he saw the girl as beautiful as a flowering tree. She was very tall, very sweaty, with big hands and feet and mouth and nose and eyes, and a head of wild dusty hair. She was yelling, "Down! Back to the house, you carrion, you vile sons of bitches!" to the whining, cowering dogs.. "He told me what it's like," Dragonfly said. "You walk up through the town, Thwil Town. There's a..wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said..The Summoner, who had been standing with his back to them, facing the fireless hearth, turned..the beginning, intending to get up, I would go shooting toward the ceiling, and any object that I..left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping.. "it thickened and darkened, creeping out over the slow waves..going to make me learn all his kind of stuff, after I got my name. But all this year he's kept..semen. I am Turren and he is me..."..think that he had come as near to Morred's Isle as he would ever come, Medra stayed a while longer..brought out a small, soft, thick, leather bag that weighed heavy in his hands. He opened it to.. "Just enough to keep going on, eh?"..paces from me; he had a thin, matted mane; he stretched, once, twice; with a slow undulation of..ledger full of lists of names and figures, a flicking, dismissive tap. "A spell of silence," she.. "Why not? What's more yourself than your own true name?"..to Pody if you like. And then back to Orrimy. I've had about enough.."..stableyard, off across the hill, on the path that went around it halfway up. One of the dogs, her.. "And I in my tower," said the Namer. "And you, Herbal, and the Doorkeeper, are in the trap, in the..A reddish seam remained, a scar through the dirt and gravel and uprooted grass..of a house to the wind. So it comes. Your tongue speaks it, the name. Your breath makes it. You

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